

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. patent of  
Norbert WEFERLING, et al.

Serial No. ~~to be assigned~~ 09/878 420

Filed: May 25, 2000

For: PROCESS FOR PREPARING  
(METAL) ALKYLPHOSPHONITES II

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
And Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following preliminary amendment.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, line 1, insert "PROCESS FOR PREPARING (METAL) ALKYLPHOSPHONITES II".

Page 1, line 1, insert --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 3, line 7, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 3, line 21, insert --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Page 9, line 13, insert --EXAMPLES--.

Page 11, line 1, delete "Patent claims" and substitute therefor --CLAIMS--.

Page 15, before line 1, delete "Process for the preparation of (metal) salts of alkylphosphonous acids II".

Page 15, line 1, delete "Abstract" and substitute therefor --ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE--.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".

Claim 4, lines 1 and 2, delete "one or more of claims 1 to 3," and substitute therefor, --claim 1, --.